United Nations

Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

General Assembly
Official Records • Fiftieth Session
Supplement No.23 (A/50/23)

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United Nations • New York, 1996

NOTE

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The present version of the report of the Special Committee is a consolidation of the following documents as they appeared in provisional form: A/50/23 (Part I) of 13 October 1995; A/50/23 (Part II) of 21 August 1995; A/50/23 (Part III) of 12 September 1995; A/50/23 (Part IV) of 12 September 1995; A/50/23 (Part V) of 8 August 1995; A/50/23 (Part VI) of 12 September 1995; and A/50/23 (Part VII) of 8 August 1995.

ISSN 0255-1217

[Original: English]

[26 January 1996]

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

29 September 1995

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report to the General Assembly of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994. This report covers the work of the Special Committee during 1995.

(Signed) Alimamy Pallo BANGURA
Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

His Excellency
Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the
United Nations
New York

CHAPTER I*

ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

A. Establishment of the Special Committee

1. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Special Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.

2. At its seventeenth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 1/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. It invited the Special Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence".

3. At the same session, by its resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to discharge, mutatis mutandis, the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By its resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.

4. By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, adopted at its eighteenth session, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. It also requested the Special Committee to take that information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to undertake any special study and prepare any special report it might consider necessary.

5. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 2/ has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Special Committee.

6. On the occasion of the tenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth anniversaries of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the General Assembly, by approving the related reports of the Special Committee, adopted resolutions 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, 35/118 of 11 December 1980, 40/56 of 2 December 1985 and 45/33 of 20 November 1990, containing a series of recommendations with a view to facilitating the speedy implementation of the Declaration.

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part I).

7. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, by adopting resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsed as a plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the proposals contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1). The plan, inter alia, contained the following provisions:

> "22. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, with the cooperation of the administering Powers, should:
>
> "(a) Prepare periodic analyses of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in each Territory;
>
> "(b) Review the impact of the economic and social situation on the constitutional and political advancement of Non-Self-Governing Territories;
>
> "(c) Organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts.
>
> "23. The Special Committee should continue to seek, as a matter of priority, the full cooperation of administering Powers with regard to the dispatch of United Nations visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories.
>
> "24. The Special Committee, with the cooperation of the administering Powers, should make every effort to facilitate and encourage the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional and international organizations, as well as in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Special Committee itself and other United Nations decolonization bodies."

8. At its forty-ninth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 3/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, in which it, inter alia:

> "5. Approves the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1994, including the programme of work envisaged for 1995; 4/
>
> "...
>
> "10. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence and, in particular:

"(a) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"(b) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;

"(c) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

"(d) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

"(e) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

"11. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to receive visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;

"12. Also calls upon the administering Powers that have not participated in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1995 session;".

9. At the same session, the General Assembly also adopted nine other resolutions, two consensuses and four decisions relating to specific Territories or other items on the agenda of the Special Committee, as well as a number of other resolutions relevant to the work of the Special Committee, by which the Assembly entrusted the Special Committee with specific tasks in relation to those Territories and items. Those decisions are listed below.

1. Resolutions, consensuses and decisions concerning specific Territories

Resolutions

Territory	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Western Sahara	49/44	9 December 1994
New Caledonia	49/45	9 December 1994
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands	49/46 A and B	9 December 1994

Consensuses

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
East Timor	49/402	23 September 1994
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	49/408	3 November 1994
Gibraltar	49/420	9 December 1994
Pitcairn	49/421	9 December 1994
St. Helena	49/422	9 December 1994

2. Resolutions concerning other items

Item	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	49/39	9 December 1994
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination	49/40	9 December 1994
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	49/41	9 December 1994
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	49/42	9 December 1994
Dissemination of information on decolonization	49/90	16 December 1994

3. Decision concerning other questions

Question	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration	49/417	9 December 1994

10. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of East Timor" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session (see decision 49/402).

11. At its 50th plenary meeting, on 3 November 1994, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session (decision 49/408).

4. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

12. Other resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session which were relevant to the work of the Special Committee and which were taken into consideration by the Special Committee are listed in a note by the Secretary-General on the Special Committee's organization of work (A/AC.109/L.1827).

13. Prior to the adoption on 16 December 1994 of resolution 49/89, by which the General Assembly approved the proposals contained in the report of the Special Committee regarding its proposed programme of work for 1995, and of resolution 49/90, concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, the Assembly heard an oral statement by the representative of the Secretariat relating to programme budget implications of the recommendations contained in the draft resolutions (see A/49/PV.91).

5. Membership of the Special Committee

14. As at 1 January 1995, the Special Committee was composed of the following 24 members:

Afghanistan
Bulgaria
Chile
China
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Ethiopia
Fiji
Grenada
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Mali
Papua New Guinea
Russian Federation
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
United Republic of Tanzania
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

A list of representatives who attended the meetings of the Special Committee in 1995 appears in document A/AC.109/INF/33.

15. By a letter dated 20 July 1995 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/2037), the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations informed the Chairman of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria to withdraw from membership in the Special Committee as of 1 August 1995. On 18 August 1995, the Acting Chairman transmitted the above-mentioned letter to the President of the General Assembly for appropriate action.

B. Opening of the meetings of the Special Committee in 1995 and election of officers

16. The representative of the Secretary-General addressed the Special Committee at its opening (1441st) meeting, on 27 February 1995. The Chairman made a statement at the same meeting (see A/AC.109/PV.1441).

17. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Eugene M. Pursoo (Grenada)

Rapporteur: Mr. Farouk Al-Attar (Syrian Arab Republic)

18. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to postpone to a future date the election of the two Vice-Chairmen pending the outcome of the related consultations.

19. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Chile, Cuba, Mali, India, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as by the Chairman (ibid.).

20. On 23 March, the Chairman of the Special Committee informed the members of the Special Committee that, on the basis of the related consultations, Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla (Cuba) and Mr. Alimamy Pallo Bangura (Sierra Leone) had agreed to become the two Vice-Chairmen of the Special Committee. No objections were received.

C. Organization of work

21. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to maintain its Working Group, which would continue to function as a steering committee, and the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

22. By adopting the Chairman's suggestions referred to above, the Special Committee also requested its Subcommittee to meet in May to complete consideration of the items allocated for its review and report and, in addition to considering the items indicated in paragraph 23 below, to carry out the specific tasks assigned to the Special Committee by the General Assembly concerning the items referred to it.

23. The Special Committee further decided to adopt the suggestions of the Chairman relating to the allocation of items and the procedure for their consideration (ibid., paras. 2 and 3).

24. Statements relating to the organization of work were made at the 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by the Chairman and by the representatives of Indonesia and Portugal (see A/AC.109/PV.1441); at the 1442nd, 1447th and 1448th meetings, on 10, 13 and 14 July, respectively, by the Acting Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1442, 1447 and 1448); at the 1450th meeting, on 17 July, by the representatives of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and India, as well as by the Acting Chairman and by the Director of General Assembly Affairs in the

Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat (see A/AC.109/PV.1450); and at the 1452nd meeting, on 18 July, by the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Papua New Guinea, the Syrian Arab Republic, China and Indonesia (see A/AC.109/PV.1452).

25. At the 1446th meeting, on 13 July, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Mexico had expressed the wish to participate in the proceedings of the Special Committee. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request.

26. At its 1449th meeting, on 14 July, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), the Special Committee took further decisions relating to its organization of work.

27. The Special Committee was invited to the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 20 October (see also para. 82).

D. Meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies

28. In keeping with its resolve to continue taking all possible measures to rationalize the organization of its work, and with the full and close cooperation of its entire membership, the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies were again able to keep to a minimum the number of their formal meetings, as indicated below, by holding, whenever possible, informal meetings and extensive consultations through Special Committee officers.

1. Special Committee

29. The Special Committee held 13 meetings at Headquarters during 1995, as follows:

First part of the session:

1441st meeting, 27 February;

Second part of the session:

1442nd to 1453rd meetings, 10 July to 16 August.

30. During the session, the Special Committee considered in plenary meetings the following questions and adopted decisions thereon, as indicated below:

Question	Meetings	Decision
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories	1442	See chap. IV, para. 20
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	1442	Chap. VIII, para. 7

Question	Meetings	Decision
Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico	1442, 1447	Chap. I, paras. 43 and 44
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands	1442, 1447, 1450, 1451	Chap. X, para. 24
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination	1442, 1450, 1453	Chap. V, para. 15
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration	1442, 1450, 1453	Chap. VI, para. 13
Gibraltar	1443	Chap. IX, para. 16
East Timor	1443-1446	Chap. IX, para. 10
New Caledonia	1445, 1447	Chap. IX, para. 24
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	1446	Chap. XI, para. 13
Western Sahara	1449	Chap. IX, para. 29
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	1453	Chap. VII, para. 13

31. The Special Committee considered the items allocated to its subsidiary bodies on the basis of the reports of the respective bodies (see paras. 33, 37 and 38) and adopted decisions as indicated below.

2. Subsidiary bodies

(a) Working Group

32. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Working Group, the composition of which was to be as follows: Congo, Fiji, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Trinidad and Tobago, together with the five officers of the Committee, namely, the Chairman (Grenada), the Vice-Chairmen (Cuba and Sierra Leone) and the Rapporteur (Syrian Arab Republic),

as well as the Chairman (Papua New Guinea) and the Rapporteur (Chile) of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

33. During the period covered by the present report, the Working Group held three meetings, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, and submitted a report (A/AC.109/L.1835).

(b) Open-ended Working Group established at the 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995

34. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, on the recommendation of its Chairman, the Special Committee established an open-ended Working Group with responsibility for making recommendations on how to improve further the efficiency of the work of the Special Committee, with the same composition and mandate as the Working Group of 1994. The open-ended Working Group of the previous year was composed of all members of the Special Committee and was open to any State Member of the United Nations. Administering Powers, in particular, as well as representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, were encouraged to participate. The open-ended Working Group did not hold any official meetings but held informal meetings and consultations through Special Committee members.

(c) Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance

35. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, consisting of the entire membership of the Committee.

36. At the same meeting, the Special Committee elected Mr. Utula Utuoc Samana (Papua New Guinea) as Chairman and Ms. Cecilia Mackenna (Chile) as Rapporteur of the Subcommittee.

37. The Subcommittee held eight meetings, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, between 22 May and 6 June and submitted a report (A/AC.109/L.1829), which the Special Committee considered at its 1442nd, 1447th, 1450th and 1451st meetings, between 10 and 18 July.

38. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the report of the Subcommittee relating to (a) American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands and (b) dissemination of information on decolonization is contained in chapters X and III, respectively, of the present report.

E. Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable

39. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to allocate the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration was applicable to the Working Group as appropriate. In taking that decision, the Special Committee recalled that, in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, 5/ it had stated that, subject to any directives that the Assembly might wish to give in that connection, it would continue, as part of its programme of work for 1995, to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applied. The Special Committee further recalled that, by

paragraph 5 of resolution 49/89, the Assembly had approved the report of the Special Committee, including the programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 1995.

40. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

> "10. The Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee should continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give at its fiftieth session."

41. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation of the Working Group.

Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico 6/

42. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico" and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

43. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, on the proposal of the Expanded Bureau, the Special Committee decided to extend the postponement of the above item until 1996 and give due consideration to the requests for hearing on the basis of its usual practice.

44. At the 1447th meeting, on 13 July, the Chairman drew attention to a number of communications received from organizations expressing the wish to be heard on Puerto Rico by the Special Committee. On the basis of the decision it had taken at its 1442nd meeting, the Special Committee agreed to accede to those requests and, at the 1447th meeting, heard the representatives of the organizations concerned, as indicated below:

Petitioners

Mr. Harry Anduze Montaño, Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico

Mr. Noel Colón Martinez, on behalf of Comisión Presidencial, Congreso Nacional Hostosiano

Ms. Eunice Santana Melecio, on behalf of Nuevo Movimiento Independentista de Puerto Rico

Ms. Ana M. López, on behalf of the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War

Mr. Fernando Martín, on behalf of the Puerto Rican Independence Party

Ms. Jennifer Green, on behalf of the Center for Constitutional Rights

F. Consideration of other matters

1. Matters relating to the small Territories

45. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "Matters relating to the small Territories" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

46. In taking these decisions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 49/89, by paragraph 10 (d) of which the Assembly had requested the Special Committee: "To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;".

47. During the year, the Special Committee and its Subcommittee gave extensive consideration to all phases of the situation obtaining in the small Territories (see chaps. IX and X of the present report).

2. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization

48. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to consider at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance the question of compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization.

49. The Special Committee and its Subcommittee accordingly took that decision into account in their consideration of specific items.

3. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

50. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters as appropriate and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations.

51. Having regard to its programme of work for 1996, the Special Committee, at its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, considered the question of holding meetings away from Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961 and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, by which the Assembly authorized the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. At its 1449th meeting, by approving the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of its Working Group

(A/AC.109/L.1835), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, that it would consider accepting such invitations as might be received in 1996 in connection with the above question, and, when particulars of such meetings had become known, that it would request the Secretary-General to seek the necessary budgetary provision in accordance with established procedure.

4. Pattern of conferences

52. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Pattern of conferences" and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations. In so doing, the Special Committee was conscious of the fact that it had initiated some important measures in rationalizing its work methods, many of which were subsequently incorporated in a number of resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly. Further recalling the measures it had taken heretofore in that connection, the Special Committee decided to continue to exercise its initiatives in the effective utilization of the limited conference resources and the further reduction of its documentation requirements.

53. During the year, the Special Committee also continued the practice of circulating communications and information material, as far as possible, in the form of informal notes and aides-mémoire in the original language of submission, thus curtailing documentation requirements by some 1,500 pages and accruing considerable savings for the Organization. A list of the official documents issued by the Special Committee in 1995 is contained in the annex to the present chapter.

54. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the item on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraphs of that report, as orally amended, read as follows:

> "5. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had closely followed the guidelines set forth in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the pattern of conferences, in particular resolutions 48/222 of 23 December 1993 and 49/221 of 23 December 1994. The Special Committee had continued its efforts to streamline and organize its work effectively, which resulted, in particular, in a more compressed session of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance in 1995. The Working Group recommended that the Special Committee should continue to make optimum and effective use of conference-servicing resources, in accordance with the request of the Secretary-General to all Member States in connection with the critical financial situation of the United Nations.
>
> "6. The Working Group decided to recommend that, taking into account the probable workload of the Special Committee for 1995, the Special Committee should consider holding its meetings in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) Special Committee

February/June	As required
July	Up to 20 meetings (6-8 meetings a week)

(b) Subcommittee and Working Group

March/June	20 meetings (1-4 meetings a week)

"7. It was understood that that programme would not preclude the holding of any ad hoc meetings that might be warranted and that the Special Committee might, in early 1996, review the scheduled meetings on the basis of any new developments. The Working Group recommended that, subject to any directives given by the General Assembly, the Special Committee, while fulfilling its mandate, should strive to keep its meetings to a minimum."

55. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

5. Control and limitation of documentation

56. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of control and limitation of documentation on the basis of recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (ibid.). The relevant paragraphs of that report, as orally amended, read as follows:

"8. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had taken further measures to control and limit its documentation in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 34/50 of 23 November 1979, 39/68 of 13 December 1984 and 49/221 B of 23 December 1994. The Working Group recommended that, consistent with the goal of limiting documentation, the Special Committee should streamline its report to the General Assembly.

"9. By its resolution 49/221 B, the General Assembly requested all bodies to submit, in accordance with existing procedures, to the Assembly at its fiftieth session, through the Committee on Conferences, justification for the continuation of the current entitlement of meeting records. Having reviewed the need for such records, the Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee to replace its verbatim records with summary records."

57. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

6. Cooperation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

58. In compliance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the delegations of New Zealand and Portugal, as representatives of the administering Powers concerned, continued to participate, in accordance with established procedure, in the related work of the Special Committee as reflected in chapters IX and X of the present report.

59. The delegations of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America did not participate in the work of the Committee. 7/

60. In a related context, the Special Committee, at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1832, as orally amended, on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories, as resolution A/AC.109/2031. By this resolution, the Special Committee noted with appreciation that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, a visiting mission was dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994. It called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration (see chap. IV, para. 20, of the present report).

7. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee

61. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work on the basis of recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

> "13. The Working Group decided to recommend that the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee at Headquarters, as recommended by the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, should continue to be facilitated through the reimbursement by the United Nations of the expenses relating to their participation under the terms of the guidelines amended by the Special Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session. In that regard, the Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee consider the guidelines at its plenary meetings with a view to amending them further, where appropriate."

62. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

8. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights

63. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972, by paragraph 2 of which the Assembly recommended that, "on the occasion of the Week, ... appropriate materials should be published in the press and broadcast on radio and television and public campaigns should be conducted with a view to obtaining contributions to the Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism ...", and as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance relating to the question of dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/L.1829), the Chairman of the Subcommittee made a statement on 25 May in commemoration of the Week (see chap. III, para. 8, of the present report).

9. Representation at seminars, meetings and conferences of intergovernmental and other organizations

64. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the following recommendation contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), as orally amended:

> "4. The Working Group proposed that the Special Committee recommend to the General Assembly that the Special Committee should continue to be represented at seminars, meetings and conferences organized by United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. In keeping with its decision of 27 February 1995 (see A/AC.109/PV.1441), the Special Committee would authorize its Chairman to hold consultations, as appropriate, concerning its participation in those meetings, as well as the level of representation, when accepting invitations. In accordance with established practice, the Chairman would hold consultations with the Bureau members who, in turn, would consult with the members of the Special Committee from their respective regional groups. The Working Group also recommended that the General Assembly make appropriate budgetary provisions to cover such activities in 1996."

65. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

10. Expansion of the Working Group

66. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of expansion of the Working Group on the basis of the recommendation contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report, as orally amended, reads as follows:

> "15. The Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee to make the Working Group open-ended to the members of the Special Committee."

67. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

11. Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

68. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828) and in accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401, on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly, the Special Committee decided to follow the procedure adopted at its 1994 session 8/ in connection with the formulation of its recommendations to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

69. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee decided to authorize its Rapporteur to prepare and submit directly to the General Assembly the various chapters of the report of the Special Committee in accordance with established practice and procedure.

12. Other questions

70. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided to request the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions and decisions listed in the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/L.1827, paras. 11 and 12).

71. This decision was taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items at both Subcommittee and plenary meetings.

G. Relations with United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

1. Security Council

72. In paragraph 10 (b) of its resolution 49/89, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security".

2. Economic and Social Council

73. In connection with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 49/41 of 9 December 1994, relating to that item, consultations were held during the year between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee to consider "appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies ... in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly". Further, the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee participated in the Council's consideration of the related item. An account of the foregoing, and of the Special Committee's consideration of the item, is set out in chapter VII of the present report.

3. Commission on Human Rights

74. During the year, the Special Committee followed closely the work of the Commission on Human Rights in regard to the question of the right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial domination, and to the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent Territories.

75. In its consideration of the Territories concerned, the Special Committee took into account the relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, including resolutions 1995/7 of 17 February 1995; 1995/11, 1995/15, 1995/17, 1995/21 and 1995/22 of 24 February 1995; 1995/30 of 3 March 1995; 1995/80 of 8 March 1995; and resolution 1995/26 of 3 March 1995 on the work of

the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as the Subcommission's report. 9/ The Special Committee also took note of the report of the Special Rapporteur relating to East Timor. 10/ The Special Committee also took into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/145, 49/146, 49/148, 49/150, 49/151, 49/159, 49/161, 49/168, 49/180, 49/181, 49/183, 49/186, 49/208 and 49/214 of 23 December 1994.

4. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

76. During the year, having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Special Committee continued to follow the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (see also paras. 84 and 85).

5. Specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

77. In accordance with the requests contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Special Committee continued its consideration of the question of implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. The Special Committee held consultations during the year with officials of several organizations. An account of those consultations and of the Special Committee's consideration of the question is set out in chapter VII of the present report.

78. During the year, the Special Committee adopted decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Those decisions are reflected in chapters VII and X of the present report.

6. Organization of African Unity

79. Bearing in mind its earlier decision to maintain contact with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of its mandate, the Special Committee, as in previous years, followed closely the work of OAU and maintained close liaison with its General Secretariat on matters of common interest.

7. Caribbean Community

80. The Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the Caribbean Community relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean region.

8. South Pacific Forum

81. During the year, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the South Pacific Forum concerning the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the South Pacific region.

9. Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

82. The Acting Chairman represented the Special Committee at the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 20 October (see also para. 27).

10. Non-governmental organizations

83. Having regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 49/89 and 49/90 of 16 December 1994, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization. The related decisions of the Special Committee are reflected in chapter III of the present report.

H. Action relating to international conventions/ studies/programmes

1. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

84. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided to include in the agenda of its 1995 session an item entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories.

85. The Special Committee continued during the year to monitor related developments in Territories, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (see resolution 2106 A (XX), annex).

2. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

86. The Special Committee continued to take into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned relating to the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, including in particular General Assembly resolution 49/146 of 23 December 1994, the relevant report of the Secretary-General, 11/ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/59 of 28 July 1995.

87. During the year, the Special Committee, in a related context, took into account the relevant provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/11 of 24 February 1995 concerning the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

I. Review of work

88. As noted elsewhere in the current report, the reform processes initiated by the Special Committee in 1991, which brought about a number of changes and improvements in its approach, methods and procedures, were again pursued in

1995. The measures adopted by the Special Committee included the streamlining and consolidation of a number of its resolutions. With regard to the preparation of the consolidated draft resolution, it was recommended that extensive consultations should be held with the administering Powers concerned and with representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that all administering Powers concerned should be urged to cooperate fully with the Special Committee. As in previous years, the Special Committee's recommendation to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on 12 Territories were consolidated into a single resolution (chap. X, paras. 24 and 25, of the present report; see also A/AC.109/2035).

89. The Special Committee also reviewed carefully its resolutions on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories (A/AC.109/2031), information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (A/AC.109/2032), activities of foreign economic and other interests (A/AC.109/2038) and implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/2040), as well as its decision on military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration (A/AC.109/2039).

90. As reported in chapter II of the present report, the Special Committee held a regional seminar in Trinidad and Tobago in July 1995 in implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991.

91. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Special Committee continued during its 1995 session to seek suitable means for the implementation of Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories to which the Declaration was applicable and formulated specific proposals and recommendations in that regard.

92. On the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee adopted a resolution (A/AC.109/2036) which it recommends to the General Assembly for action at its fiftieth session (see chap. III of the present report).

93. During the year, the Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration was applicable. As regards the Special Committee's decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico, the Special Committee decided to defer consideration of that decision until 1996. However, in accordance with the recommendation of the Expanded Bureau, endorsed by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee did hear representatives of organizations concerned.

94. In accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly, the Special Committee was able during the year to reduce to a minimum the number of its formal meetings and to minimize the wastage resulting from cancellation of scheduled meetings.

J. Future work

95. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and subject to any further directives that it may receive from the Assembly during its fiftieth session, the Special Committee intends during 1996 to pursue its efforts in seeking the best ways and means for the

implementation of the Declaration in all Territories that have not yet attained independence. In particular, the Special Committee will keep under review developments concerning each Territory, as well as the compliance by all States, in particular the administering Powers, with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations. On the basis of that review, the Special Committee will continue to submit conclusions and recommendations on the specific measures necessary to achieve the objectives set out in the Declaration and the relevant provisions of the Charter. The Special Committee also intends to continue its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable.

96. The Special Committee will continue to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security.

97. The Special Committee will continue to fulfil the responsibilities that have been entrusted to it in the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181. The activities to be undertaken in this connection include a seminar in the Pacific region to be organized by the Special Committee in 1996, to be attended by the representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

98. The Special Committee will continue to pay special attention to the specific problems of the small island Territories, which constitute the overwhelming majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. Aware that, in addition to general problems facing developing countries, those island Territories also suffer handicaps arising from the interplay of such factors as size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining freshwater supplies, heavy dependence on imports and a small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens, the Special Committee will continue to recommend measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of those Territories and increased assistance in the development of all the sectors of their economies, with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification. In so doing, the Special Committee will continue to take into consideration the recommendations of the regional seminars that the Special Committee has organized since 1990 (see A/AC.109/1040 and Corr.1, A/AC.109/1043, A/AC.109/1114, A/AC.109/1159 and A/AC.109/2030).

99. It is the Special Committee's intention to continue to follow closely the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In so doing, the Special Committee, as in the past, will review the action taken or envisaged by international organizations in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. The Special Committee will hold further consultations and contacts with those organizations, as appropriate. The Special Committee will also be guided by the results of further consultations to be held in 1996 between its Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council within the context of the relevant decisions of the Assembly, the Council and the Committee itself. Further, the Special Committee will maintain close contact with the Secretaries-General and senior officials of regional organizations such

as OAU, the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community, and the South Pacific Forum, particularly those in the Caribbean and Pacific regions where the majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are located. The objective of those contacts is to facilitate the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies and to foster cooperation between the specialized agencies and the regional organizations in their assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those regions.

100. The Special Committee intends to continue to review measures to bring an end to the activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration in Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also to continue its study of military activities and arrangements in those Territories.

101. In its resolutions relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, the General Assembly has repeatedly called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee by inviting United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration. Having regard to the constructive role played by such missions in the past, the Special Committee continues to attach the utmost importance to the dispatch of visiting missions as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the people concerning their future status. Accordingly, the Special Committee will continue to seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers on the matter.

102. Taking into consideration its mandate over Western Sahara and its primary responsibility to ensure the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) for all Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in accordance with a decision it had taken at its 1397th meeting, on 23 August 1991, the Special Committee may dispatch a mission to Western Sahara during the holding of the referendum in the Territory.

103. Taking into account the views expressed by the representatives of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories at the regional seminars organized by the Special Committee since 1990, as well as the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Special Committee will continue to consider, in cooperation with the administering Powers, how to intensify and improve the participation of the representatives of those Territories in the work of the Special Committee within the existing resources.

104. In the light of the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years, as well as its probable workload for 1996, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 1996, which it commends to the Assembly for approval.

105. The Special Committee suggests that, when the General Assembly, at its fiftieth session, examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration, it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Special Committee that are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section in order to enable the Special Committee to carry out the tasks it envisages for 1996. In addition, the Special Committee recommends that the Assembly should renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of

the peoples of the Territories concerned. In this connection, the Special Committee recommends that the Assembly should again request the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in the work relating to the Territories under their respective administrations. Bearing in mind the affirmation by the Assembly that direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is an effective means of promoting the progress of the peoples of those Territories towards a position of equality with States Members of the United Nations, the Special Committee also recommends that the Assembly should continue to invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussions in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and the Special Committee of the items relating to their respective Territories. Further, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly and the Security Council in their relevant resolutions.

106. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly should make adequate provision to cover the activities the Special Committee envisages for 1996. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 includes resources to provide for the programme of work of the Special Committee for 1996 and 1997 based on the level of activities approved for the year 1995, without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the Assembly at its fiftieth session. On that basis, the Special Committee understands that should any additional provisions be required over and above those included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, proposals for supplementary requirements would be made for its approval to the Assembly. Finally, the Special Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various tasks assigned to it by the Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

K. Conclusion of the 1995 session

107. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995, the Special Committee decided to request the Rapporteur to prepare the present report and submit it directly to the General Assembly, in accordance with established practice.

108. At the 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, the Acting Chairman made a statement on the occasion of the closing of the 1995 session of the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

2/ See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to forty-ninth sessions. For the most recent, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/48/23); and ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

4/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. J.

5/ Ibid., chap. I, para. 99.

6/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23), chap. I, para. 56.

7/ For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23), chap. I, paras. 70 and 71.

9/ E/CN.4/1995/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/56.

10/ E/CN.4/1995/61/Add.1.

11/ E/1995/111 and Add.1.

Annex

LIST OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
Documents issued in the general series		
A/AC.109/INF/33	List of delegations	12 July 1995
A/AC.109/2012	Pitcairn (working paper)	10 April 1995
A/AC.109/2013 and Corr.1 and Add.1	Cayman Islands (working paper)	3 April 1995 1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2014	United States Virgin Islands (working paper)	3 April 1995
A/AC.109/2015 and Add.1	Turks and Caicos Islands (working paper)	27 April 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2016 and Add.1	Anguilla (working paper)	27 April 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2017 and Add.1	British Virgin Islands (working paper)	1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2018	Guam (working paper)	1 May 1995
A/AC.109/2019 and Add.1	Montserrat (working paper)	1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2020 and Add.1	Bermuda (working paper)	2 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2021	St. Helena (working paper)	2 May 1995
A/AC.109/2022	Tokelau (working paper)	5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2023	American Samoa (working paper)	17 May 1995
A/AC.109/2024	International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: mid-term review of the Plan of Action. Caribbean regional seminar, to be held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995: guidelines	6 June 1995
A/AC.109/2025	Gibraltar (working paper)	23 June 1995
A/AC.109/2026	East Timor (working paper)	22 June 1995
A/AC.109/2027 and Corr.1	Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (working paper)	22 June 1995 10 July 1995
A/AC.109/2028	New Caledonia (working paper)	18 June 1995
A/AC.109/2029 and Add.1	Western Sahara (working paper)	22 June 1995 3 October 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/2030	International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: mid-term review of the Plan of Action. Report of the Caribbean Regional Seminar, held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2031	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2032	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2033	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1446th meeting, on 13 July 1995	14 July 1995
A/AC.109/2034	Question of New Caledonia: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1447th meeting, on 13 July 1995	14 July 1995
A/AC.109/2035	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands: consolidated resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995	20 July 1995
A/AC.109/2036	Dissemination of information and decolonization: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995	20 July 1995
A/AC.109/2037	Letter dated 20 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee	7 August 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/2038	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
A/AC.109/2039	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration: decision adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
A/AC.109/2040	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
Documents issued in the limited series		
A/AC.109/L.1827	Organization of work: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly: note by the Secretary-General	13 February 1995
A/AC.109/L.1828	Organization of work: note by the Chairman	13 February 1995
A/AC.109/L.1829	Report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance	8 June 1995
A/AC.109/L.1830	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): draft resolution	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1831	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: report of the Chairman	5 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1832	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	6 July 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/L.1833	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	6 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1834	Question of New Caledonia: draft resolution	10 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1835	102nd report of the Working Group	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1836	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination: draft resolution submitted by the Acting Chairman	17 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1837	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration: draft decision submitted by the Acting Chairman	17 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1838	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: report of the Acting Chairman	7 August 1995
A/AC.109/L.1839	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Acting Chairman	8 August 1995

CHAPTER II*

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

1. On 19 December 1991, at its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/181, entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", and the Plan of Action contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1). In the Plan of Action "aimed at ushering in, in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism", the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Special Committee:

> "[to] organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts."

2. The Special Committee considered the question of the "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism" and the Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Mid-term Review of the Plan of Action at its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995 and its 1442nd, 1447th to 1449th and 1451st meetings, between 10 and 18 July 1995.

3. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee, mindful of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and by approving the recommendation of its Chairman on the Special Committee's organization of work for the year (A/AC.109/L.1828), decided to allocate to the Working Group and plenary meetings of the Special Committee, as appropriate, the question "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism".

4. On 6 June, the guidelines for the Caribbean Regional Seminar (A/AC.109/2024) were issued.

5. On 23 June, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew the attention of the members of the Special Committee to an aide-mémoire relating, inter alia, to the venue and timing of the Seminar.

6. A detailed account of the organization and proceedings of the Caribbean Regional Seminar, which was held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995, as well as a summary of the discussions held, is contained in the report prepared by its Rapporteur (A/AC.109/2030). The report includes the topics discussed at the Seminar, as well as the list of participants.

7. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman made a statement relating to the report of the Seminar (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

8. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of the International Decade on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part I).

(A/AC.109/L.1835), the relevant paragraphs of which, as orally amended, read as follows:

> "12. Noting that the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism provided for the holding of seminars alternately in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions, the Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee that it should organize in 1996 a seminar in the Pacific region, to be attended, in particular, by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region.
>
> "13. The Working Group further decided to recommend that the Special Committee should invite United Nations organs, agencies and institutions to apprise the Secretary-General of actions they had taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991 relating to the Plan of Action and to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session."

9. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

10. At the 1451st meeting, on 18 July, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Cuba, the United Republic of Tanzania, Indonesia, Tunisia, Portugal, Papua New Guinea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and the Syrian Arab Republic (see A/AC.109/PV.1451).

11. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to take note of the Report of the Seminar (A/AC.109/2030), it being understood that the reservations expressed by members would be reflected in the record of the meeting (see A/AC.109/PV.1451).

CHAPTER III*

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/I 1428), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to maintain its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance and to allocated to it certain specific items for its consideration. The Special Committee also decided to consider the questions of the dissemination of information on decolonization, as appropriate, at its plenary and Subcommittee meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd and 1451st meetings, on 10 and 18 July 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 49/90 of 16 December 1994 concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, and resolution 49/89 of the same date, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

4. At the 1442nd meeting, the Rapporteur of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in a statement to the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/PV.1442), introduced the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.109/L.1829), which related, inter alia, to consultations with the representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, and to the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights (22-26 May 1995).

5. At its 1451st meeting, on 18 July, the Special Committee adopted without a vote the draft resolution contained in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.109/L.1829) (see para. 9). At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved the report as a whole.

6. On 31 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2036) was transmitted to all States.

B. Decisions of the Special Committee

7. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2036) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July (see paras. 5 and 9) appears under section C in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part II).

Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights

8. The report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance (A/AC.109/L.1829), adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995 (see para. 5), contained the following statement made by the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the occasion of the Week of Solidarity:

Statement made by the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Petitions, Information and Assistance on 25 May 1995 on the Week of Solidarity

"Since 1972, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII), the Governments and peoples of the world have been observing annually a Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories. This celebration is in full accord with the purposes and tenets embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and is in conformity with the principles enshrined in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which is contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

"Today, when the world celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of our Organization, its success in the field of decolonization is universally recognized. Hundreds of millions gained their freedom and independence in the surge of decolonization following the creation of the United Nations. Their membership in the United Nations as sovereign States strengthened the fundamental basis of the international community.

"We remember the history of the struggles against colonialism and pay tribute to all those who took part in them. We remain mindful of the sacrifices that made it possible for hundreds of millions of people to achieve self-determination and independence.

"However important the success in the field of decolonization, the task is still unfinished in that area and requires further concerted and determined action on the part of all those involved. There are still peoples who have not been able to exercise their right to self-determination. These are mostly peoples of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories located mainly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions. They are confronted, inter alia, by problems of their small size, low population, geographic remoteness, limited natural resources and vulnerability to natural disasters. Their situations require new and innovative solutions geared towards the implementation of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism launched by the General Assembly in 1988.

"Convinced as we are that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, we once again reiterate the legitimacy of all options of self-determination consistent with General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) as long as it is ascertained that they are the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned. We should continue to exercise flexibility and realism in our endeavours to complete the process of decolonization. The wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories should not be ignored when examining once again the options of self-determination available to them. The year 1995, which is the year of mid-term review of the Plan of Action for the

International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, is an appropriate time for this task.

"In that connection, we further appeal for the strengthened and continued support of the administering Powers, whose cooperation with the Special Committee is essential for the progress of the Territories towards self-determination. We count on the support from the specialized agencies, which should continue to assist the Non-Self-Governing Territories in enhancing their standard of living and promoting their self-sufficiency. We count on regional and international organizations, which should explore new avenues to provide the Non-Self-Governing Territories with legal and political opportunities for participating in programmes that relate to their environment and livelihood. We count on support for our efforts from all Member States and non-governmental organizations.

"We hope and believe that our combined, unrelenting efforts will ensure the fulfilment of the promise for freedom, lasting peace, sustained growth and sustainable development for all the peoples of our planet in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations."

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

9. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, 1/

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 49/90 of 16 December 1994,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving complete decolonization by the year 2000,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination

of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization;

2. Considers it important to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. Requests the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(d) To encourage involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. Requests all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. Requests the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

CHAPTER IV*

QUESTION OF SENDING VISITING MISSIONS TO TERRITORIES

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided to take up the question of sending visiting missions to Territories as appropriate. The Special Committee further decided that the item should be considered at its plenary meetings and, as appropriate, by its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in connection with its examination of specific Territories.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, those provisions relating to the question contained in resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolution 49/46 and Assembly decision 49/424 of the same date relating to specific Territories. The Special Committee also considered Assembly resolution 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration.

4. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it the report of the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1831) on his consultations with representatives of the administering Powers, undertaken in accordance with paragraph 4 of the resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1434th meeting, on 12 July 1994. 1/ In his report, the Chairman stated, inter alia, that he had appealed to the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations for the sending of such missions. It had been the understanding of the Special Committee, from the exchange of views that had taken place at its regional seminars held in 1990, 1992 and 1993, 2/ that some territorial Governments had expressed their willingness to receive United Nations visiting missions.

5. The Chairman said that he had informed his interlocutors that the Special Committee continued to attach the utmost importance to the cooperation of the administering Powers. Their full cooperation was essential for the successful implementation of the Plan of Action approved by the General Assembly for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/46/634/Rev.1, annex). He had taken that opportunity to express his appreciation to the administering Powers concerned for their cooperation in facilitating the participation of a number of representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories in the two seminars that the Special Committee had organized within the context of that International Decade.

6. The Chairman also noted with satisfaction that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, which had been fully supported by the Council of

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part II).

Faipule (joint Chairman of the General Fono (Council)) of Tokelau, the Special Committee had dispatched a fourth United Nations visiting mission to the Territory at the end of July 1994.

7. As in previous years, the administering Powers consulted had reiterated their willingness to continue to provide all necessary information on the Territories under their administration in fulfilment of their obligation under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

8. The representative of one administering Power stated that his Government's record on decolonization had been good and that its position with regard to the dispatch of visiting missions to the Territories under its administration had not changed. Those territorial Governments willing to receive visiting missions, however, should first consult with the administering Power concerned. With regard to the concept of decolonization, the representative said that the Territories under his Government's administration had democratically elected Governments and it was up to them to decide their future status. So far, none of those Territories had taken any action with regard to their future status.

9. The representatives of two administering Powers stated that they remained open to any suggestions by local Governments in the Territories concerned regarding their readiness to receive United Nations visiting missions. The representatives made reference to their respective communications 3/ informing the United Nations that they would stop participating in the work of the Special Committee and indicated that they did not foresee a change of policy in that regard. However, they reiterated the commitment of their Governments to fulfil their obligations concerning transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter.

10. The representative of New Zealand reiterated the readiness of his Government to continue, in accordance with established practice and procedure, to provide the Committee with all relevant information on Tokelau and to participate in the related work of the Special Committee. The representative expressed the hope that sufficient progress would be made on the Constitution of Tokelau that it would be possible for the people of the Territory to decide on their future status by the year 2000.

11. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to the report of the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1831) as well as a draft resolution (A/AC.109/L.1832) on the question.

12. At the same meeting, following an exchange of views in which the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and Trinidad and Tobago participated (see A/AC.109/PV.1442), the representative of the Russian Federation submitted the following oral amendment to draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1832:

> In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "provide an effective means" would be replaced by the words "provide a means".

13. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted the amendment without objection.

14. Following a further exchange of views in which the representatives of the Russian Federation, Papua New Guinea, the Syrian Arab Republic, India, Tunisia, China, Trinidad and Tobago and Portugal, as well as the Chairman participated

(see A/AC.109/PV.1442), the Special Committee decided to replace present operative paragraph 3, which read:

> "3. Continues to call upon those administering Powers that are not participating in the work of the Special Committee to reconsider their decisions and take part in the work of the Committee;"

by the following:

> "3. Requests the administering Powers to consider the new approaches in the work of the Special Committee and calls upon them to cooperate with the Committee in its efforts;".

15. Further statements were made by the representatives of India and the Russian Federation, as well as by the Secretary of the Special Committee and its Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

16. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1832, as orally amended (see para. 20).

17. On 31 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2031) was transmitted to the representatives of the administering Powers concerned for the attention of their respective Governments.

18. In addition to the consideration of this item by the Special Committee in plenary meetings, as described below, the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in considering the specific Territories referred to it, took into account the relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions and decisions mentioned in paragraph 3, as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the question.

19. By approving the relevant report of that Subcommittee, the Special Committee endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting missions to Territories, as reflected in chapter X of the present report, relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands.

B. Decision of the Special Committee

20. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2031) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995, to which reference is made in paragraph 16 is reproduced below:

> The Special Committee,
>
> Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,
>
> Having examined the report of the Chairman on the question, 4/
>
> Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide a means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

Conscious that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Noting with appreciation that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, 5/ a visiting mission was dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994,

Noting with regret that some administering Powers do not participate in the work of the Special Committee,

1. Stresses the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories;

2. Calls upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration;

3. Requests the administering Powers to consider the new approaches in the work of the Special Committee and calls upon them to cooperate with the Committee in its efforts;

4. Requests its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned on the implementation of paragraph 2 of the present resolution and to report thereon to the Special Committee as appropriate.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23), chap. III, para. 19.

2/ Regional seminars held in Vanuatu (A/AC.109/1040 and Corr.1) and Barbados (A/AC.109/1043) in 1990; in Grenada (A/AC.109/1114) in 1992; and in Papua New Guinea (A/AC.109/1159) in 1993. The first two regional seminars were held in observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; the last two were held within the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77, and A/47/86.

4/ A/AC.109/L.1831.

5/ A/AC.109/1162.

CHAPTER V*

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under Colonial Domination and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd, 1450th, 1451st and 1453rd meetings, between 10 July and 16 August 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including in particular resolution 49/40 of 9 December 1994 relating to foreign economic activities in colonial Territories. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration and resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration. Additionally, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the eleventh preambular paragraph of the resolution it adopted on 16 August (see paras. 12 and 16).

4. In 1994, the Special Committee, in keeping with its consistent goal of limiting documentation and streamlining its report to the General Assembly, recommended to the Assembly that in preparing the general working papers on the Territories, the Secretariat should, where applicable, incorporate under separate headings those sections relating to foreign economic and other interests and those on military activities and arrangements on those Territories. By adopting resolution 49/89, the Assembly approved, inter alia, that recommendation.

5. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on economic conditions, with particular reference to foreign economic activities, in the following Territories: Anguilla, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2013 and Add.1, 2014, 2015 and Add.1, 2016 and Add.1, 2019 and Add.1 and 2020 and Add.1).

6. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, statements were made by the representatives of India, Papua New Guinea, China, Cuba, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part III).

7. At the 1450th meeting, on 17 July, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and India, as well as by the Director of General Assembly Affairs and the Acting Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1450).

8. At the 1451st meeting, on 18 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/L.1836).

9. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Cuba, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Indonesia and China, as well as by the Acting Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1451).

10. At the 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, the Acting Chairman made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago submitted oral amendments to draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1836, as follows:

(a) Insert the following paragraphs after the fifth preambular paragraph:

"Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory and bearing in mind the need to promote economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the respective economies of each Territory,

"Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

"Conscious also that foreign economic investment when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their rights to self-determination;"

(b) In operative paragraph 4 replace the word "Condemns" with the words "Reiterates its deep concerns about".

12. At its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, following statements by the representatives of the Russian Federation, India, Cuba, the Syrian Arab Republic, China, Chile and the Islamic Republic of Iran (see A/AC.109/PV.1453), the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1836 (see para. 16), as orally amended, without a vote.

13. Further statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

14. On 29 August, copies of the resolution (A/AC.109/2038) were transmitted to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

B. Decision of the Special Committee

15. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2038) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995 (see para. 12), appears under section C, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

16. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item, 1/

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as all its other resolutions on this subject, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, 2/

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that constitutes an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and obstructs efforts aimed at the elimination of colonialism is a direct violation of the rights of the inhabitants and of the principles of the Charter and all relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory and bearing in mind the need to promote economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the respective economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which exploit the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and deprive them of their right to control the wealth of their countries,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination and independence and to the enjoyment of the natural resources of their Territories, as well as their right to dispose of those resources in their best interests;

2. Reiterates that any administering Power that deprives the colonial peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories of the exercise of their legitimate rights over their natural resources or subordinates the rights and interests of those peoples to foreign economic and financial interests, violates the solemn obligations it has assumed under the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Reaffirms its concern about the activities of those foreign economic, financial and other interests which continue to exploit the natural resources that are the heritage of the indigenous populations of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, thus depriving them of their right to control the resources of their Territories and impeding the realization by those peoples of their legitimate aspirations for self-determination and independence;

4. Reiterates its deep concerns about those activities of foreign economic and other interests in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the efforts to eliminate colonialism;

5. Calls once again upon all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of its resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises and to prevent new investments that run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories;

6. Reiterates that the exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories by foreign economic interests, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

7. Invites all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

8. Urges the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

9. Calls upon the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory and unjust wage systems or working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to apply in each Territory a uniform system of wages to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of those activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration;

11. Appeals to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts for the full implementation of the Declaration;

12. Decides to continue to monitor closely the situation in the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of the indigenous peoples and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories, in order to facilitate and accelerate the exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their right to self-determination and independence;

13. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

2/ See A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

CHAPTER VI*

MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS BY COLONIAL POWERS IN TERRITORIES UNDER THEIR ADMINISTRATION

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd, 1450th and 1453rd meetings, between 10 July and 16 August 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including in particular resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, in paragraph 8 of which the Assembly called upon the administering Powers to terminate military activities in the Territories under their administration and to eliminate military bases there in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly, and urged them not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States. The Special Committee also took into account Assembly decision 49/417 of 9 December 1994, in paragraph 7 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session. Further, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

4. In 1994, the Special Committee, in keeping with its consistent goal of limiting documentation and streamlining its report to the General Assembly, recommended to the Assembly that in preparing the general working papers on the Territories, the Secretariat should, where applicable, incorporate under separate headings those sections relating to foreign economic and other interests and those on military activities and arrangements on those Territories. By adopting resolution 49/89, the Assembly approved, inter alia, that recommendation.

5. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on military activities and arrangements in the following Territories: Bermuda (A/AC.109/2020 and Add.1), Guam (A/AC.109/2018) and United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2014).

6. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, statements were made by the representatives of India, Papua New Guinea, China, Cuba, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part III).

7. At the 1450th meeting, on 17 July, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and India, as well as by the Director of General Assembly Affairs and the Acting Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1450).

8. At the 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft decision on the item (A/AC.109/L.1837).

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago submitted oral amendments to draft decision A/AC.109/L.1837, as follows:

(a) Insert the following new paragraph 6:

"The Special Committee takes note of the decision of some of the administering Powers to close or downsize some of those military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territory";

(b) Renumber paragraphs 6 and 7 accordingly.

10. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of India, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania and Cuba (see A/AC.109/PV.1453), the Special Committee adopted draft decision A/AC.109/L.1837 (see para. 14), as orally amended, by a vote of 11 to 1.

11. Further statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation and Mali (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

12. On 29 August, copies of the decision (A/AC.109/2039) were transmitted to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

B. Decision of the Special Committee

13. The text of the decision (A/AC.109/2039) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995 (see para. 10), appears under section C, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

14. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in territories under their administration

1. The General Assembly, having considered the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to an item on the agenda of the Special Committee entitled "Military

activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration", 1/ and recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to military activities in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, reaffirms its strong conviction that military bases and installations in the Territories concerned could constitute an obstacle to the exercise by the people of those Territories of their right to self-determination, and reiterates its strong views that existing bases and installations, which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, should be withdrawn.

2. Aware of the presence of such bases and installations in some of those Territories, the General Assembly urges the administering Powers concerned to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve those Territories in any offensive acts or interference against other States.

3. The General Assembly reiterates its concern that military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration might run counter to the rights and interests of the colonial peoples concerned, especially their right to self-determination and independence. The Assembly once again calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate such military bases in compliance with its relevant resolutions.

4. The General Assembly reiterates that the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories and areas adjacent thereto should not be used for nuclear testing, dumping of nuclear wastes or deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

5. The General Assembly deplores the continued alienation of land in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular in the small island Territories of the Pacific and Caribbean regions, for military installations. The large-scale utilization of the local resources for this purpose could adversely affect the economic development of the Territories concerned.

6. The General Assembly takes note of the decision of some of the administering Powers to close or downsize some of those military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

7. The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to continue to inform world public opinion of those military activities and arrangements in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories which constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

8. The General Assembly requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

CHAPTER VII*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 49/41 of 9 December 1994 concerning implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, in paragraph 22 of which, the Assembly requested the Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session. The Special Committee also took into account all other relevant resolutions adopted by the Assembly on this subject, including resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

4. The Special Committee also took into account the provisions of resolution 1995/58 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted at its 48th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1995. In paragraph 15 of that resolution, the Council drew the attention of the Special Committee to the resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 1995 of the Economic and Social Council (see E/1995/SR.57). Further, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fifth preambular paragraph of the resolution it adopted on 16 August (see paras. 11 and 14).

5. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/50/212 and Add.1), submitted in response to the request addressed to him by the General Assembly in paragraph 18 of resolution 49/41, containing information on action taken by the organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations referred to above.

6. At the 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, the Acting Chairman reported orally on his participation, on behalf of the Special Committee, in the work of the Economic and Social Council in connection with its consideration of the item during the Council's substantive session for 1995 (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part IV).

7. At the same meeting, the Acting Chairman drew attention to the relevant documentation, including the report on the related consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council under the terms of paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 49/41 (A/AC.109/L.1838 and E/1995/85), as well as to a draft resolution submitted by him (A/AC.109/L.1839).

8. Also, at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation proposed oral amendments to draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1839, as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 1, for "and endorses the observations" read "as well as of observations";

(b) In operative paragraph 4, delete "the Security Council".

9. Following statements by the representatives of Cuba, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Syrian Arab Republic, India and Indonesia, as well as by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1453), the representative of the Russian Federation withdrew his oral amendment to operative paragraph 1 (see para. 8 (a) above).

10. The Special Committee then approved the amendment to operative paragraph 4 (see para. 8 (b) above). The Special Committee also agreed to insert the word "Acting" before "Chairman" where appropriate.

11. The Special Committee then adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1839, as orally amended, without a vote (see para. 14).

12. On 29 August, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2040) was transmitted to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the South Pacific Forum, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system. On the same date, the text of the resolution was transmitted to all States.

B. Decision of the Special Committee

13. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2040) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995 (see para. 11), is reproduced in section C below, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

14. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the

specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the reports submitted on the item by the Secretary-General 1/ and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, 2/

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item, 3/

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, and resolutions of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all the appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community, as well as other regional organizations, for the continuing cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the Non-Self-Governing small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sealevel rise, and recalling its relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolution 49/41 of 9 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. Takes note of the report of the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on his consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council 3/ and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom; 4/

2. Recommends that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. Reaffirms that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. Reaffirms also that the recognition by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. Expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

6. Requests the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, as well as regional organizations, to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories and strengthen existing measures of support, and, in that regard, to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

7. Recommends that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

8. Also recommends that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

9. Welcomes the continued initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

10. Encourages Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

11. Requests the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and other organizations;

12. Recommends that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and, in that connection, accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

14. Commends the Economic and Social Council for its debate 5/ and its resolution 1995/58 of 28 July 1995 on this issue, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

15. Requests the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ A/50/212 and Add.1.

2/ A/AC.109/L.1838.

3/ The present chapter.

4/ E/1995/85.

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Plenary Meetings, 57th meeting (E/1995/SR.57).

CHAPTER VIII*

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question, the Special Committee took into account the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and paragraph 5 of resolution 49/39 of 9 December 1994, in which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session. Further, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolutions 49/89 of 16 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration.

4. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1833 on the item.

5. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of India, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation and Cuba, as well as by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1442), the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1833 without objection (see para. 8).

6. On 24 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2032) was transmitted to the representatives of the administering Powers for the attention of their Governments.

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* Previously issued as part of A/50/23 (Part IV).

B. Decision of the Special Committee

7. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2032) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995 (see para. 5), appears under section C in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

8. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations 1/ and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on the item, 2/

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 49/39 of 9 December 1994, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 e of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations; 1/

2. Reaffirms that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. Requests the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. Requests the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

2/ A/50/458.

CHAPTER IX*

EAST TIMOR, GIBRALTAR, NEW CALEDONIA, WESTERN SAHARA

A. Introduction

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the questions of East Timor, Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara as separate items and to consider them at its plenary meetings.

2. The present chapter contains an account of the consideration by the Special Committee of the above-mentioned Territories (sect. B). It also sets forth the recommendation on the question of New Caledonia to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session (sect. C).

3. In its consideration of the questions, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly resolutions 49/89 and 49/90 of 16 December 1994 and decisions 49/402 of 23 September 1994 and 49/420 of 9 December 1994 related to the questions, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

4. In its capacity as the administering Power concerned and in accordance with established procedures, the delegation of Portugal participated in the work of the Special Committee in relation to East Timor.

B. Consideration by and decisions of the Special Committee

1. East Timor

5. The Special Committee considered the question of East Timor at its 1442nd to 1446th meetings, between 10 and 13 July 1995.

6. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2026).

7. At its 1442nd to 1444th meetings on 10 and 11 July (see A/AC.109/PV.1442-1444) the Special Committee granted the requests for hearing from the following petitioners and heard their statements at the meetings indicated below:

Petitioner
1443rd meeting
Mr. Zacharias da Costa, on behalf of União Democrática Timorense
Mr. David Webster, on behalf of East Timor Alert Network
Mr. Kan Akatani, on behalf of Free East Timor Japan Coalition

* Previously issued as A/50/23 (Part V).

Petitioner

Mr. Azancot de Menezes, Associação de Defesa dos Timorenses

Mr. Warren Allmand, on behalf of Parliamentarians for East Timor

1444th meeting

Mr. Max B. Surjadinata, on behalf of East Timor Religious Outreach

Mr. Michael Ede, on behalf of Australian Coalition for a Free East Timor

Mr. Vince Comisky, on behalf of Catholic Institute for International Relations

Mr. Andrew Clapham, on behalf of Amnesty International

Ms. Jennifer Washburn, on behalf of Agir pour Timor

Ms. Julie Carran, on behalf of British Coalition for East Timor

Mr. Richard Koch, on behalf of the East Timor Ireland Solidarity Campaign

Mr. Simon de Faux, on behalf of Auxilium College (Australia)

Mr. Charles Scheiner, The East Timor Action Network/United States

Ms. Jill Sternberg, on behalf of Coordinamento Italiano dei gruppi di solidarietá con il popolo timorese

Ms. Vanessa Ramos, on behalf of International Platform of Jurists for East Timor and American Association of Jurists

Mr. Alyn Ware, on behalf of East Timor Independence Committee

Mr. Thomas Mahedy, on behalf of Pax Christi International

1445th meeting

Mr. Luis Manuel Costa Geraldes, Member of Parliament/Social Democratic Party, Portugal

Mr. Manuel Tomás Rodriguez Queirõ, Member of Parliament/Social Democratic Popular Party, Portugal

Mr. Miguel Urbano Tavares Rodriguez, Member of Parliament/Communist Party, Portugal

Mr. Luis Filipe Dias Amado, Member of Parliament/Socialist Party, Portugal

Mr. Domingos M. Das Dores Soares, Regent of Dili, East Timor

Mr. Jose Matins III, President, East Timor KOTA Party

Mr. Peter Colavito, on behalf of Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey

Mr. Mari Alkatiri, on behalf of Frente Revolucionaria de Timor-Leste Independente (FRETILIN)

Petitioner

Mr. Allan Nairn, on behalf of The Nation

Ms. Sharon Scharfe, on behalf of Asia Pacific Coalition for East Timor

Mr. John Miller, on behalf of Hobart East Timor Committee and the Australia-East Timor Association

Mr. Constancio Pinto, National Council of Maubere Resistance

Mr. Richard Panganiban, Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Inc.

Ms. Jeannine Guthrie, on behalf of Human Rights Watch/Asia

Mr. Ben Wainfield, on behalf of The Indonesian Human Rights Campaign (TAPOL)

8. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Sao Tome and Principe had expressed the wish to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item. The Committee decided to accede to the request.

9. At the 1446th meeting, on 13 July, statements were made by the representatives of Sao Tome and Principe, on behalf also of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia (see A/AC.109/PV.1446). The representatives of Portugal and Indonesia made further statements (see A/AC.109/PV.1446).

Decision of the Special Committee

10. At its 1446th meeting, on 13 July, on the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided to continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fiftieth session, it being understood that the objection made by the representative of Indonesia would be reflected in the record of the meeting.

2. Gibraltar

11. The Special Committee considered the question of Gibraltar at its 1442nd and 1443rd meetings, on 10 and 11 July 1995.

12. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2025).

13. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ms. Christine Thorsell, International Federation of Liberal and Radical Youth. Ms. Thorsell made a statement at the 1443rd meeting (A/AC.109/PV.1443).

14. At the 1443rd meeting, on 11 July, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Spain had expressed the wish to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request.

15. At the same meeting, with the Special Committee's consent, Mr. Joe Bossano, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1443). The representative of Spain made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1443).

Decision of the Special Committee

16. At its 1443rd meeting, on 11 July 1995, the Special Committee decided, without objection, to continue its consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fiftieth session and, in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

3. New Caledonia

17. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd, 1445th and 1447th meetings, between 10 and 13 July 1995.

18. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2028).

19. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Mr. Yann Céléné Uregei of the Congrès populaire. At the 1445th meeting, on 12 July, Mr. Uregei made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1445).

20. At the 1447th meeting, on 13 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution submitted by Fiji and Papua New Guinea (A/AC.109/L.1834).

21. At the same meeting, the representative of Papua New Guinea made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1447), in the course of which he introduced, on behalf also of Fiji, draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1834.

22. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1834 without a vote (see para. 25).

23. On 24 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2034) was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of France for the attention of his Government.

Decision of the Special Committee

24. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2034) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1447th meeting, on 13 July 1995 (see paras. 23 and 31) appears under section C in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

4. Western Sahara

25. The Special Committee considered the question of Western Sahara at its 1442nd and 1449th meetings, on 10 and 14 July 1995.

26. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2029 and Add.1).

27. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Mr. Boukhari Ahmed of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rió de Oro (Frente POLISARIO). Mr. Ahmed made a statement at the 1449th meeting, on 14 July (see A/AC.109/PV.1449).

28. At the 1449th meeting, on 14 July, statements were made by the representative of Cuba and the Secretary of the Committee (A/AC.109/PV.1449).

Decision of the Special Committee

29. At its 1449th meeting, on 14 July 1995, on the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided, without objection, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fiftieth session and, in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

30. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia, 1/

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Welcoming the strengthening of the process of review of the Matignon Accords 2/ through the increased frequency of coordination meetings,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. Urges all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia and building on the positive outcome of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

2. Invites all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Matignon Accords, which are based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

3. Welcomes measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon Accords;

4. Also welcomes the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

5. Acknowledges the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

6. Notes the positive initiatives aimed at protecting New Caledonia's natural environment, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

7. Acknowledges the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and provincial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the member countries of the South Pacific Forum;

8. Welcomes, in particular, in this regard, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to member countries of the South Pacific Forum;

9. Requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of this question at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

2/ See A/AC.109/1000, paras. 9-14.

CHAPTER X*

AMERICAN SAMOA, ANGUILLA, BERMUDA, THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, GUAM, MONTSERRAT, PITCAIRN, ST. HELENA, TOKELAU, THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS AND THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

A. Introduction

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to allocate the following 12 Territories for consideration by the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands.

2. The present chapter contains an account of the Special Committee's consideration of the 12 Territories (see sect. B), as well as its recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session (see sect. D).

3. In its consideration of the questions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. In paragraph 10 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Special Committee, inter alia, to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that had not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence, and in particular to continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence. The Special Committee also took into account relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the Territories.

4. The delegation of New Zealand, in its capacity as administering Power concerned and in accordance with established procedures, continued to participate in the work of the Special Committee in relation to Tokelau.

5. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration. 1/

B. Consideration by the Special Committee

6. The Special Committee considered the questions of the 12 Territories at its 1442nd, 1444th, 1447th, 1450th and 1451st meetings, between 10 and 18 July 1995.

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* Previously issued as A/50/23 (Part VI).

7. During its consideration of the questions, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/2012, 2013 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 2014, 2015 and Add.1, 2016 and Add.1, 2017 and Add.1, 2018, 2019 and Add.1, 2020 and Add.1 and 2021-2023).

8. The Special Committee also had before it the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance containing an account of its consideration of the Territories (A/AC.109/L.1829).

9. The report of the Subcommittee was based on a thorough review by the Subcommittee of the political, economic and social conditions in each of the Territories in the light of information provided by the administering Powers under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations, and contained in statements of the representatives of an administering Power (New Zealand) and territorial Governments (Guam and Tokelau), who participated in the discussions.

10. At the 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Rapporteur of the Subcommittee introduced the report of the Subcommittee on the 12 Territories (A/AC.109/L.1829) containing an account of its consideration of the Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

11. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, India and Papua New Guinea (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

12. At its 1444th meeting, on 11 July, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ms. Judith L. Bourne, United Nations Association of the Virgin Islands, relating to the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/PV.1444).

13. At the 1447th meeting, on 13 July, Ms. Deborah Jackson, on behalf of the United Nations Association of the Virgin Islands, made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1447).

14. At the same meeting, the representative of India made a statement in connection with the hearing (see A/AC.109/PV.1447).

15. At the 1450th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of the Russian Federation proposed the following oral amendments to the consolidated draft resolution, contained in document A/AC.109/L.1829, part B, paragraph 10:

(a) In the twelfth preambular paragraph, delete "the" before "Non-Self-Governing";

(b) In the fourteenth preambular paragraph, which read

> "Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide the most effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review",

for "the most effective means" read "an effective means";

(c) In operative paragraph 2, which read

> "2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV),

containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples",

[illegible]

(d) In operative paragraph 12, which read

"12. Decides to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session",

delete "and independence" after "self-determination".

16. Following statements by the representative of Cuba and the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1450), the Special Committee decided to accept the oral amendment to the twelfth preambular paragraph (see para. 15 (a) above).

17. Following an exchange of views in which the representatives of Cuba, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Syrian Arab Republic and Fiji, as well as the Chairman participated (see A/AC.109/PV.1450), the representative of Indonesia proposed a further oral amendment to the original operative paragraph 2 (see para. 15 (c) above), whereby "self-determination and independence" would be replaced by "self-determination, including independence," (see A/AC.109/PV.1450).

18. Following further statements by the representative of the Russian Federation and the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1450), the Special Committee decided to accept the oral amendments proposed by the Russian Federation to operative paragraph 12 and by Indonesia to operative paragraph 2 (see paras. 15 (c) and 16 above) (see A/AC.109/PV.1450).

19. Following statements by the representatives of Cuba and the Russian Federation, as well as by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1450), the Special Committee decided to accept the amendment by the Russian Federation to the fourteenth preambular paragraph (see para. 15 (b) above).

20. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to continue consideration of the consolidated draft resolution, as orally amended, at its next meeting.

21. At its 1451st meeting, on 18 July, the Special Committee adopted the consolidated draft resolution, as orally amended, without a vote (A/AC.109/2035), it being understood that the reservations expressed by members would be reflected in the record of the meeting.

22. The Special Committee then approved the report of the Subcommittee as a whole (A/AC.109/L.1829).

23. On 25 July 1995, copies of the consolidated resolution (A/AC.109/2035) were transmitted to the Permanent Representatives of New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States, the administering Powers concerned, for the attention of their Governments.

C. Decision of the Special Committee

24. The text of the consolidated resolution (A/AC.109/2035), adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995 (see para. 25), appears under section D, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

D. Recommendations of the Special Committee

25. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1441st and 1442nd meetings, on 27 February and 10 July 1995, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, 2/

Recognizing that 1995 is the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and that decolonization is one of the proudest achievements of the Organization,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the people of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of those Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as administering Power in the work of the Special Committee, and welcoming its statement that it will abide by the wishes of the population of Tokelau in determining their future political status,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to decide their future status,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Aware of the usefulness, both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Expressing its conviction that referendums and other forms of popular consultation on the future status of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are an appropriate means of ascertaining the wishes of the peoples in those Territories with regard to their future political status,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Mindful also that some Territories have not had any United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands; 2/

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination, including independence, in conformity with the Charter of

the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. Reaffirms also that it is ultimately for the people of those Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination, in conformity with the legitimate political status options clearly defined in resolution 1541 (XV);

4. Requests the administering Powers to ascertain expeditiously, by means of popular consultations, the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories regarding their future political status so that the Special Committee can review the status of the Territories in accordance with the expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories;

5. Also requests the administering Powers to facilitate the dispatch of the United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories regarding their future political status so that the Special Committee can review the status of the Territories in accordance with the expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territory;

6. Reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of those Territories, and recommends that priority should continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. Requests the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

8. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to take all necessary measures, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

9. Stresses that the achievement of the declared goal of eradication of colonialism by the year 2000 requires full and constructive cooperation of all parties concerned, and appeals to the administering Powers to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee;

10. Urges Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

11. Invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;

12. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

B

1. American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the fact that a large number of American Samoans have emigrated to the United States of America and are residing there,

Noting also the constitutional developments in the Territory,

Noting further that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience lack of adequate medical facilities and other infrastructural requirements,

Recalling the dispatch in 1981 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to carry out, at the earliest possible date, a democratic exercise to ascertain the wishes of the people of American Samoa regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory and the development of manpower resources.

2. Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that general elections were held in March 1994,

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Country Policy Plan for 1993-1997,

Aware that the exploitation of deep-sea resources would help reduce the risk of depleting the Territory's own fishing resources as a result of overfishing,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money laundering,

Recalling the dispatch in 1984 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to carry out, at the earliest possible date, an exercise to ascertain the wishes of the people of Anguilla regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. Requests all countries, organizations and United Nations agencies with deep-sea fishing experience to assist the Territory in improving its capacity in exploiting deep-sea fishing.

3. Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the decision of the territorial legislature to hold the independence referendum scheduled for mid-1995,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the issue of a referendum and the future status of the Territory,

Noting the measures taken by the Government to combat racism and the plan to set up a Commission for Unity and Racial Equality,

Noting also the closure of the Canadian base in 1994 and the announced plans of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to close their respective air and naval bases in Bermuda in 1995,

1. Requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the preparation and holding of the independence referendum;

2. Also requests the administering Power to facilitate the visit of a team of the Special Committee to observe the independence referendum in Bermuda;

3. Calls upon the administering Power to continue its programmes of socio-economic development.

4. British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the completion of the constitutional review in the Territory and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 20 February 1995,

Noting further the results of the constitutional review of 1993-1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the statement by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering

Power should assist through gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

Noting that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading off-shore financial centres,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. Requests the administering Power to continue the process for facilitating the expression of the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. Also requests the administering Power, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors.

5. Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the constitutional review of 1992-1993, according to which the population expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

Noting also the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

Noting that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading off-shore financial centres,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

2. Also requests the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

3. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue and increase their programmes of assistance to

the Territory with a view to strengthening, developing and diversifying its economy;

4. Calls upon the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking.

6. Guam

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the results of the general elections held in November 1994,

Recalling that, in a referendum held in Guam in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the question of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam,

Recalling the statement by the Special Representative of the United States of America on 12 December 1993 that he hoped to have a bill for the passage of the Commonwealth Act before Congress by the end of 1994,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Calls upon the administering Power and the territorial Government to expedite the early conclusion of the negotiations on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory;

2. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. Also requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;

4. Further requests the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;

5. Requests the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities.

7. Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat,

Taking note of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

Recalling that a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory took place in 1982,

1. Requests the administering Power to conduct an appropriate exercise, at the earliest possible date, to ascertain the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other multilateral financial institutions, to continue their assistance to the Territory in the strengthening, development and diversification of the economy of Montserrat in accordance with its medium- and long-term development plans.

8. Pitcairn

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Taking into account the unique nature of the Territory in terms of population and area,

Expressing its satisfaction with the continued economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

Requests the administering Power to continue its assistance for improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory.

9. St. Helena

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Aware of the request by the Legislative Council of St. Helena that the administering Power conduct a constitutional review in the Territory,

Taking into account the unique character of the Territory, its population and its natural resources,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production,

1. Requests the administering Power to conduct the constitutional review in the Territory, taking into account the wishes of its population;

2. Requests the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory.

10. Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Having heard the statements of the representatives of New Zealand, the administering Power, and the Special Representative of Tokelau, who conveyed a message from the Council of Faipule (joint chairman of the general Fono (Council)) to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau delivered by the Ulu o Tokelau (highest authority of Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

Noting the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's intended free association relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help Tokelau could continue to expect from New Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established in the framework of that relationship,

Noting also the Territory's concentrated focus in 1995 on strengthening its national institutions and creating a structure of government to meet modern needs, preparatory to the exercise by the people of Tokelau of their right to self-determination,

Acknowledging the endeavours of Tokelau to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

1. Notes, on the basis of statements made by representatives of the administering Power and Tokelau subsequent to the 1994 United Nations visiting mission, that Tokelau is working towards an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. Also notes the expressed wishes of the people of the Territory indicating a strong preference for a status of free association with New Zealand;

3. Further notes the readiness of the people of Tokelau to assume full governmental responsibility and to conduct their own affairs within the framework of a constitution, which is currently being developed;

4. Welcomes the assurances of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligation to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

5. Invites the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue their assistance to the social and economic development of Tokelau.

11. Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting recent changes to the Constitution of the Territory and the intention of the territorial Government to continue to campaign for further constitutional changes,

Noting also that general elections took place in the Territory on 31 January 1995,

Noting further the policy of the authorities of maintaining a balance between creating a more liberal investment environment and preserving access by the population to economic benefits,

Noting the increase in aid, in particular financial assistance, granted to the territorial Government by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. Requests the administering Power to conduct, at the earliest possible date, an appropriate exercise to ascertain the will of the people regarding the future status of the Territory;

2. Calls upon the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory.

12. United States Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that general elections were held in November 1994,

Noting also that the referendum on political status held in the Territory on 11 October 1993 did not yield any conclusive results,

Noting further the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community,

Noting the necessity of further diversifying the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of Water Island is still under consideration through bilateral negotiations,

Noting further that in 1993 the territorial Government purchased the assets of the West Indian Company, which had significant property and development interests in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

2. Also requests the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community;

3. Welcomes the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the question of Water Island.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77, and A/47/86.

2/ The present chapter.

CHAPTER XI*

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the question at its 1442nd and 1446th meetings, on 10 and 13 July 1995.

3. In its consideration of the question the Special Committee took into account General Assembly decision 49/408 of 3 November 1994, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

4. During its consideration of the question, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2027 and Corr.1).

5. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee granted requests for hearing to Mr. Ricardo A. Patterson and Mr. Alexander Betts, as well as to Mr. E. M. Goss and Mrs. N. Edwards of the Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), who made statements at the 1446th meeting, on 13 July (see A/AC.109/PV.1446).

6. At the 1446th meeting, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution on the item sponsored by Chile, Cuba and Venezuela (A/AC.109/L.1830).

7. At the same meeting, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Argentina had expressed the wish to participate in the Committee's consideration of the item. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request.

8. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Venezuela introduced, on behalf also of Chile and Cuba, draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1830, referred to in paragraph 6 (see A/AC.109/PV.1446).

9. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1446).

10. Following statements by the representatives of Cuba, Chile and Papua New Guinea, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1830 without a vote (see para. 13). Statements in explanation of their position were made by the representatives of Sierra Leone and Trinidad and Tobago (see A/AC.109/PV.1446).

11. On 24 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2033) was transmitted to the Permanent Representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and

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* Previously issued as A/50/23 (Part VII).

Northern Ireland and of Argentina to the United Nations for the attention of their Governments.

12. The delegation of the United Kingdom, the administering Power concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item. 1/

B. Decision of the Special Committee

13. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2033) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1446th meeting, on 13 July 1995, to which reference is made in paragraph 10, is reproduced below.

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Aware that the maintenance of colonial situations is incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 31/49 of 1 December 1976, 37/9 of 4 November 1982, 38/12 of 16 November 1983, 39/6 of 1 November 1984, 40/21 of 27 November 1985, 41/40 of 25 November 1986, 42/19 of 17 November 1987 and 43/25 of 17 November 1988, Special Committee resolutions A/AC.109/756 of 1 September 1983, A/AC.109/793 of 21 August 1984, A/AC.109/842 of 9 August 1985, A/AC.109/885 of 14 August 1986, A/AC.109/930 of 14 August 1987 and A/AC.109/972 of 11 August 1988, A/AC.109/1008 of 15 August 1989, A/AC.109/1050 of 14 August 1990, A/AC.109/1087 of 14 August 1991, A/AC.109/1132 of 29 July 1992, A/AC.109/1169 of 14 July 1993 and A/AC.109/2003 of 12 July 1994 and Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

Distressed that, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), this prolonged dispute has not yet been settled,

Aware of the interest of the international community in the resumption by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of their negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Expressing its preoccupation over the fact that the good level of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has not yet led to negotiations on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Considering that this situation should facilitate the resumption of the negotiations in order to find a peaceful solution to the dispute over sovereignty,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

Calling attention to the importance of the Secretary-General continuing his efforts to give full effect to the mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Reaffirming the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

1. Reiterates that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. Takes note of the views expressed by the President of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly; 2/

3. Regrets that, in spite of the widespread international support for a negotiation between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom that includes all aspects on the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on this question has not yet started;

4. Requests the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25;

5. Reiterates its firm support for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in order to assist the parties in complying with the request made by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas);

6. Decides to keep under review the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) subject to the directives that the General Assembly has issued and may issue in that regard.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

2/ Ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Plenary Meetings, 6th meeting (A/49/PV.6).

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